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News Release

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SOUTH CAROLINA VALUE OF POULTRY PRODUCTION UP

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The value of **SOUTH CAROLINA'S** broiler, egg and turkey production plus sales from chickens in 2006 was \$809.9 million, up 7 percent from the 2005 value of \$760.3 million, according to USDA, South Carolina Field Office.

The value of **broilers** produced during 2006 was \$563.2 million, up slightly from the \$563.1 million in 2005. The total number of broilers produced in 2006 was 227.1 million, up 6 percent from the 213.3 million in 2005. Value of **egg** production in 2006 was \$68.1 million, up 10 percent from \$62.1 million in 2005. In 2006, eggs averaged 63.9 cents per dozen compared to 57.8 cents in 2005. The value of **turkeys** produced in 2006 was \$177.5 million, up 33 percent from \$133.5 million in 2005. Turkey production totaled 386 million pounds in 2006, up 25 percent from the 310 million pounds in 2005. The value of **chickens sold** for slaughter was \$1.1 million in 2006, down 26 percent from 2005.

The **UNITED STATES'** combined value of production from broilers, eggs, turkeys, and the value of sales from chickens in 2006, was \$26.8 billion, down 5 percent from the \$28.2 billion in 2005. Of the combined total, 70 percent was from broilers, 16 percent from eggs, 13 percent from turkeys, and less than 1 percent from chickens.

The **value of broilers** produced during 2006 was \$18.9 billion, down 10 percent from 2005. The total number of broilers produced in 2006 was 8.88 billion, up 1 percent from 2005. The total amount of live weight broilers produced in 2006 was 48.8 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2005. The 2006 average price per pound on a live weight equivalent basis was 38.6 cents per pound, compared with 43.6 cents in 2005.

Value of all egg production in 2006 was \$4.39 billion, up 8 percent from the \$4.05 billion in 2005. Egg production totaled 90.9 billion eggs, up 1 percent from the 90.0 billion eggs produced in 2005. In 2006, all eggs averaged 57.9 cents per dozen, compared with 54.0 cents in 2005.

The **value of turkeys** produced during 2006 was \$3.55 billion, up 12 percent from the \$3.18 billion the previous year. Turkey production in 2006 totaled 7.42 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the 7.10 billion pounds produced in 2005. The average price received by producers during 2006 was 47.9 cents per pound, compared with 44.9 cents in 2005.

The **value of sales from chickens** (excluding broilers) in 2006 was \$53.1 million, down 18 percent from the \$64.7 million a year ago. Prices averaged 5.8 cents per pound, compared with 6.5 cents in 2005. The number of chickens sold in 2006 totaled 172 million, down 11 percent from the total sold during the previous year.

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